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The price of the book is \$1.50, and it may be had through Longmans, Green & Co., New York.

G. S. C.

THE NEW HISTORY.

James Harvey Robinson, Professor of History in Columbia University, presents in a collected form, as so many consecutive chapters, eight essays under the title of "The New History." We cannot say that we find the book particularly illuminative. It is critical and destructive all along the line—a thesis with an argument to maintain, but just what it maintains and just what the "new history" is as distinguished from the broadening conception of history that has been gaining ground for the last half-century we cannot say. Bluntly, Prof. Robinson does not seem to have a talent for directness, his points, whatever they are, being smothered up and lost sight of in too much learned loquacity.

His argument is, in the first instance, a protest against the monopolizing of history by the chronicles of rulers, political events and spectacular happenings. These, it is implied, are but insignificant features amid the vast and complex forces that play through social development and which make the real history of the human race. This is unquestionably true, but the criticism, however apt it may have been a generation or two ago, sounds rather belated now. Historians are busy now departing from those old notions. From kings, dynasties and spectacular events to a democratic interest in the people and their institutions, thence on to a scientific and philosophical consideration of conditions and causes, the study merging at length with what we call sociology, seems to be the process revealed as we survey the modern changes in history writing. These are the desiderata contemplated in the "new history." It may be that there is also something more of a constructive character there, but we fail to catch it. There is in the book much casual information and not a few statements as to the fictions and unreliability of the old histories.

The price of the work is \$1.50; the publishers The Macmillan Company, New York.

G. S. C.